

Chemical Names

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This is a table relating obsolete chemical names to their more modern forms. Corrections/additions gratefully received at above email address.

Acetone	Dimethyl ketone, 2-propanone	$\text{OC}(\text{CH}_3)_2$
Acid of sugar	Oxalic acid	$\text{H}_2\text{C}_2\text{O}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$
Acid potassium sulphate	Potassium bisulphate	KHSO_4
Ackey	Nitric acid	HNO_3
Alcali volatil	Ammonium hydroxide	NH_4OH
Alcohol sulphuris	Carbon disulphide	CS_2
Alcohol, grain	Ethyl alcohol (ethanol)	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$
Alcohol, wood	Methyl alcohol (methanol)	CH_3OH
Alum	Aluminum potassium sulfate	$\text{AlK}(\text{SO}_4)_2 \cdot 12\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Alumina	Aluminum oxide	Al_2O_3
Alundum	Fused aluminum oxide	Al_2O_3
Ammonia	Ammonium hydroxide	NH_4OH
Antichlor	Sodium thiosulfate	$\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Antimony black	antimony trisulphide	Sb_2S_3
Antimony bloom	antimony trioxide	Sb_2O_3
Antimony glance	antimony trisulphide	Sb_2O_3
Antimony red	antimony oxysulphide	$\text{Sb}_2\text{S}_3 + \text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3$
Antimony vermilion	antimony oxysulphide	$\text{Sb}_2\text{S}_3 + \text{Sb}_2\text{O}_3$
Aqua ammonia	Ammonium hydroxide solution	$\text{NH}_4\text{OH} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
Aqua fortis	Nitric acid	HNO_3
Aqua regia	Nitric & hydrochloric acid	$\text{HNO}_3 + \text{HCl}$
Aromatic spirits of ammonia	Ammonia gas in alcohol	...
Arsenic glass	Arsenic trioxide	As_4O_6
Asbestos	Magnesium silicate	$\text{Mg}_3\text{Si}_2\text{O}_7 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Aspirin	Acetylsalicylic acid	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{CO}_2\text{H}$
Azurite	Mineral form of basic copper carbonate	CuCO_3
Baking soda	Sodium bicarbonate	NaHCO_3
Banana oil	Amyl acetate	$\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2\text{C}_5\text{H}_{11}$
Barium white	Barium sulfate	BaSO_4
Baryta	Barium oxide	BaO
Bauxite	Impure aluminum oxide	Al_2O_3
Benzol	Benzene	C_6H_6
Bicarbonate of soda	Sodium hydrogen carbonate or sodium bicarbonate	NaHCO_3
Bichloride of mercury	Mercuric chloride	HgCl_2
Bichrome	Potassium dichromate	$\text{K}_2\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_7$
Bitter salt	Magnesium sulphate	$\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Black ash	Crude form of sodium carbonate	Na_2CO_3
Black lead	Graphite	C
Black oxide of copper	Cupric oxide	CuO
Black oxide of mercury	Mercurous oxide	Hg_2O

Blanc-fixe	Barium sulfate	BaSO_4
Bleaching powder	Calcium hypochlorite	CaOCl_2
Blue copperas	Copper sulfate	$\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Blue lead	Lead sulfate	PbSO_4
Blue salts	Nickel sulfate	$\text{NiSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Blue stone	Copper sulfate	$\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Blue vitriol	Copper sulfate	$\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Bone ash	Impure calcium carbonate	$\text{CaCO}_3 + ?$
Bone black	Animal charcoal	...
Boracic acid	Boric acid	H_3BO_3
Borax	Sodium borate	$\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Brimstone	Sulfur	S
Brine	Strong NaCl solution	$\text{NaCl} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
Burnt alum	Anhydrous potassium aluminum sulfate	...
Burnt lime	Calcium oxide	CaO
Burnt ochre	Ferric oxide	Fe_2O_3
Burnt ore	Ferric oxide	Fe_2O_3
Butter of antimony	Antimony trichloride	SbCl_3
Butter of tin	Anhydrous stannous chloride	$\text{SnCl}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
Butter of X	Chloride or trichloride of X	...
Butter of zinc	Zinc chloride + 1/4 its weight in water	$\text{ZnCl}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
Caliche	Impure sodium nitrate	NaNO_3
Calomel	Mercurous chloride	Hg_2Cl_2
Carbolic acid	Phenol	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{OH}$
Carbonic acid gas	Carbon dioxide	CO_2
Caustic lime	Calcium hydroxide	Ca(OH)_2
Caustic potash	Potassium hydroxide	KOH
Caustic soda	Potassium hydroxide	KOH
Chalk	Calcium carbonate	CaCO_3
Chile nitre	Sodium nitrate	NaNO_3
Chile saltpeter	Sodium nitrate	NaNO_3
Chinese red	Basic lead chromate	PbCrO_4
Chinese white	Zinc oxide	ZnO
Chloride of lime	Calcium hypochlorite	Ca(ClO)_2
Chloride of soda	Sodium hypochlorite	NaOCl
Chloroform	Trichloromethane	CHCl_3
Chrome alum	Chromium potassium sulfate	$\text{CrK(SO}_4)_3 \cdot 12\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Chrome green	Chromium oxide	Cr_2O_3
Chrome yellow	Lead chromate	PbCrO_4
Chromic acid	Chromium trioxide	CrO_3
Copperas	Ferrous sulfate	$\text{FeSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Corrosive sublimate	Mercuric chloride	HgCl_2
Corundum	Aluminum oxide	Al_2O_3
Cream of tartar	Potassium bitartrate	$\text{KHC}_4\text{H}_4\text{O}_6$
Crocus powder	Ferric oxide	Fe_2O_3
Crystal carbonate	Sodium carbonate	Na_2CO_3
DDT	Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane	$(\text{C}_6\text{H}) \cdot \text{Cl}_2 \cdot \text{CH} \cdot \text{CCl}_3$
Dechlor	Sodium thiophosphate	$\text{Na}_3(\text{PO}_3)_3\text{S} \cdot \text{XH}_2\text{O}$

Diamond	Carbon crystal	$x=12-18$
Dry ice	Solid carbon dioxide	C
Dutch liquid	Ethylene dichloride	CO_2
Emery powder	Impure aluminum oxide	$\text{CH}_2\text{Cl} \cdot \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$
Epsom salts	Magnesium sulfate	Al_2O_3
Ethanol	Ethyl alcohol	$\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Ether	Ethyl ether	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$
Farina	Starch	$(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{O}$
		Complex carbohydrate
Ferro prussiate	Potassium ferricyanide	$\text{K}_3\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6$
Ferrum	Iron	Fe
Fixed white	Barium sulfate	BaSO_4
Flores Martes	Anhydrous ferric chloride	Fe_2Cl_6
Flowers of sulphur	Sulfur	S
Flowers of X	Oxide of X (X is usually a metal)	...
Fluorspar	Natural calcium fluoride	CaF_2
Formalin	Formaldehyde	HCOH
French chalk	Natural magnesium silicate	$\text{H}_2\text{Mg}_3(\text{SiO}_3)_4$
French vergidris	Basic copper acetate	$\text{Cu}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$
Galena	Natural lead sulfide	PbS
Glauber's salt	Sodium sulfate	$\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Grain alcohol	Ethyl alcohol	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$
Green verditer	Basic copper carbonate	CuCO_3
Green vitriol	Ferrous sulfate	$\text{FeSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Gun cotton	Cellulose nitrate	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_8(\text{NO}_2)_2\text{O}_5$
Gypsum	Natural calcium sulfate	$\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Hard oil	Boiled linseed oil	...
Heavy spar	Barium sulfate	BaSO_4
Hydrocyanic acid	Hydrogen cyanide	HCN
Hypo	Sodium thiosulfate	$\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Indian red	Ferric oxide	Fe_2O_3
Iron perchloride	Ferric chloride	$\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Iron pernitrate	Ferric nitrate	$\text{Fe}(\text{NO}_3)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Iron persulphate	Ferric sulfate	$\text{Fe}(\text{SO}_4)_3 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Iron protochloride	Ferrous chloride	$\text{FeCl}_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Isinglass	Agar-agar gelatin	...
Javelle water	Originally potassium hypochlorite solution, now usually sodium hypochlorite	Originally KOCl + H_2O , now NaOCl + H_2O
Jeweler's etchant	3 g silver nitrate + 3 g nitric acid + 3 g mercurous nitrate + 100 cc H_2O	$\text{HgNO}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ + AgNO_3 + HNO_3 + H_2O
Jeweler's rouge	Ferric oxide	Fe_2O_3
K.N.S. solution	10 g ammonium carbonate + 20 g ammonium peroxydisulphide + 200 cc ammonium hydroxide	$\text{NH}_4\text{CO}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ + $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ + NH_4OH
Killed spirits	Zinc chloride	ZnCl_2
Labarraque's solution	Sodium hypochlorite solution	$\text{NaOCl} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$

Lampblack	Crude form of carbon, charcoal	C
Laughing gas	Nitrous oxide	N ₂ O
Lead peroxide	Lead dioxide	PbO ₂
Lead protoxide	Lead oxide	PbO
Lime	Calcium oxide	CaO
Lime, slaked	Calcium hydroxide	Ca(OH) ₂
Lime, unslaked	Calcium oxide	CaO
Limewater	Calcium hydroxide solution	Ca(OH) ₂ + H ₂ O
Liquor ammonia	Ammonium hydroxide solution	NH ₄ OH
Litharge	Lead oxide	PbO
Lithopone	Zinc sulfide + barium sulfate	ZnS + BaSO ₄
Liver of sulphur	Melted potassium carbonate + sulphur	K ₂ CO ₃ + S
Lunar caustic	Silver nitrate	AgNO ₃
Magnesia	Magnesium oxide	MgO
Magnesite	Magnesium carbonate	MgCO ₃
Manganese black	Manganese dioxide	MnO ₂
Marble	Calcium carbonate	CaCO ₃
Marsh gas	Methane	CH ₄
Mercury oxide, black	Mercury(II) oxide	HgO
Methanol	Methyl alcohol	CH ₃ OH
Methylated spirits	Methyl alcohol	CH ₃ OH
Milk of lime	Calcium hydroxide	Ca(OH) ₂
Milk of magnesia	Magnesium hydroxide + water	Mg(OH) ₂
Milk of sulfur	Precipitated sulfur	S
Minium	Lead tetroxide	Pb ₃ O ₄
Muriate of mercury	Mercuric chloride	HgCl ₂
Muriate of X	Chloride of X	...
Muriatic acid	Hydrochloric acid	HCl
Natron	Sodium carbonate	Na ₂ CO ₃
Natural gas	Mostly methane	CH ₄
Niter	Potassium nitrate	KNO ₃
Nitrate of silver	Silver nitrate	AgNO ₃
Nitre	Potassium nitrate	KNO ₃
Nordhausen acid	Fuming sulfuric acid	H ₂ SO ₄ + SO ₃
Oil of bitter almonds	Benzaldehyde	C ₆ H ₅ CHO
Oil of mars	Deliquescent anhydrous ferric chloride	FeCl ₃ + H ₂ O
Oil of mirbane	Nitrobenzene	C ₆ H ₅ NO ₃
Oil of vitriol	Sulfuric acid	H ₂ SO ₄
Oil of wintergreen	Methyl salicylate	C ₆ H ₄ OHCOOCH ₃
Oleum	Fuming sulfuric acid	H ₂ SO ₄ SO ₃
Orpiment	Arsenic trisulfide	As ₂ S ₃
Orthophosphoric acid	Phosphoric acid	H ₃ PO ₄
Oxymuriate of mercury	Mercuric chloride	HgCl ₂
Oxymuriate of potassium	Potassium chlorate	KClO ₃
Paris blue	Ferric ferrocyanide,	Fe ₇ (CN) ₁₈ (H ₂ O) _x where 14 ≤ x ≤ 16
Paris green	Copper aceto-arsenite	3Cu(AsO ₂) ₂ •Cu(C ₂ H

Paris white	Powdered calcium carbonate	$3\text{O}_2)_2$ CaCO_3
Pear essence	Isoamyl acetate, also called banana oil	$\text{C}_7\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2$
Pearl ash	Potassium carbonate	K_2CO_3
Permanent white	Barium sulfate	BaSO_4
Peroxide	Hydrogen peroxide solution	$\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
Phosgene	Carbonyl chloride	COCl_2
Plaster of Paris	Calcium sulfate	$(\text{CaSO}_4)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$
Plumbago	Graphite	C
Potash	Potassium carbonate	K_2CO_3
Potassa	Potassium hydroxide	KOH
Precipitated chalk	Calcium carbonate	CaCO_3
Prussian blue	Ferric ferrocyanide	$\text{Fe}_7(\text{CN})_{18}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_x$ where $14 \leq x \leq 16$
Prussic acid	Hydrocyanic acid	HCN
Purple crystals	Potassium permanganate	KMnO_4
Pyro	Pyrogalllic acid	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{OH})_3$
Quicklime	Calcium oxide	CaO
Quicksilver	Mercury	Hg
Red lead	Lead tetroxide	Pb_3O_4
Red liquor	Aluminum acetate solution	$(\text{CH}_3\text{CO}_2)_2\text{AlOH}$
Red oxide of copper	Cuprous oxide	Cu_2O
Red oxide of mercury	Mercuric oxide	HgO
Red prussiate of potash	Potassium ferricyanide	$\text{KC}_3\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6$
Red prussiate of soda	Sodium ferrocyanide	$\text{Na}_4\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6$
Rochelle salt	Potassium sodium tartrate	$\text{KNaC}_4\text{H}_4\text{O}_6 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Rock salt	Sodium chloride	NaCl
Rouge	Ferric oxide	Fe_2O_3
Rouge, jeweler's	Ferric oxide	Fe_2O_3
Rubbing alcohol	Isopropyl alcohol	$\text{CH}_3\text{CHOHCH}_3$
Sal ammoniac	Ammonium chloride	NH_4Cl
Sal soda	Crystalline sodium carbonate	NaHCO_3
Sal volatile	Ammonium carbonate	$(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$
Saleratus	Sodium bicarbonate	NaHCO_3
Salt	Sodium chloride	NaCl
Salt cake	Impure sodium sulfate	Na_2SO_4
Salt of vitriol	Zinc sulfate	$\text{ZnSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Salt of wormwood	Potassium carbonate	K_2CO_3
Saltpeter	Potassium nitrate	KNO_3
Saltpeter (Chile)	Impure sodium nitrate	NaNO_3
Salts of hartshorn	Ammonium carbonate	$(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{CO}_3$
Salts of lemon	Potassium binoxalate	$\text{KHC}_2\text{O}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$
Salts of sorrol	Potassium acid oxalate	$\text{KHC}_2\text{O}_4 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$
Salts of tartar	Potassium carbonate	K_2CO_3
Silica	Silicon dioxide	SiO_2
Slaked lime	Calcium hydroxide	$\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$
Soapstone	Impure magnesium silicate	$\text{H}_2\text{Mg}_3(\text{SiO}_3)_4$

Soda ash	Dry sodium carbonate	Na_2CO_3
Spencer's acid	3 g silver nitrate + 3 g nitric acid + 3 g mercurous nitrate + 100 cc	$\text{HgNO}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{AgNO}_3 + \text{HNO}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O}$
Spirit of hartshorn	Ammonia gas in alcohol (Given in Gunsmith Kinks II as ammonium hydroxide)	...
Spirit of nitrous ether	Ethyl nitrate	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{NO}_2$
Spirits of salt	Hydrochloric acid	HCl
Spirits of wine	Ethyl alcohol	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$
Sugar of lead	Lead acetate	$\text{Pb}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Sulfuric ether	Ethyl ether	$(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{O}$
Sweet spirits of nitre	Ethyl nitrite solution with ethyl alcohol	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{NO}_2 + \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$
Talc	Magnesium silicate	$\text{H}_2\text{Mg}_3(\text{SiO}_3)_4$
Tetrachloromethane	Carbon tetrachloride	CCl_4
Tin salt	Stannous chloride	SnCl_2
Tincture of ferric chloride	Ferric chloride + ethyl alcohol	$\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$
Tincture of steel	Ferric chloride + ethyl alcohol	$\text{FeCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$
TNT	Trinitrotoluene	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_2\text{CH}_3(\text{NO}_3)_3$
Toluol	Toluene	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CH}_3$
Verdigris	Copper acetate	$\text{Cu}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}_2)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$
Vinegar	Dilute and impure acetic acid	CH_3COOH
Vitriol	Sulfuric acid	H_2SO_4
Washing soda	Crystalline sodium carbonate	NaHCO_3
Water glass	Sodium silicate	Na_2SiO_3
White arsenic	Arsenic trioxide	As_2O_3
White lead	Basic lead carbonate	$(\text{PbCO}_3)_2 \cdot \text{Pb}(\text{OH})_2$
White vitriol	Zinc sulfate	$\text{ZnSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Whitewash	Solution of quick lime or slaked lime used as a cheap substitute for paint.	...
Whiting	Powdered calcium carbonate	CaCO_3
Wood alcohol	Methyl alcohol	CH_3OH
Xylol	Xylene	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{CH}_3)_2$
Yellow prussiate of potash	Potassium ferrocyanide	$\text{K}_4\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$
Zinc white	Zinc oxide	ZnO

References

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